Application No.: 09/851923   Docket No.: SMQ-117/P6141

REMARKS

Claims 1-58 were presented for examination. All the claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Bartoletti et al., "Secure Software Distribution System", 1997 ("Bartoletti"). Upon entry of this amendment, claim 55 is amended. No new matter is added. Claims 1-58 are presented for examination.

Independent claims 1, 19, 37, and 55 require the limitation of for each realization, downloading a realization detector to the computer system, each realization detector determining from the configuration information in the computer object whether the state defined by the realization exists in the computer. Examiner's response to previous Office Action suggested that Bartoletti teaches the step of downloading one or more realization detectors which are used in conjunction with the computer object on the target system to evaluate systems prior to patch installation in pg. 7, par. 3, lines 6-7. However, Bartoletti pointed out in this section that SSDS Agent software would be installed on all systems in the network. However, Applicant respectfully submits that the act of downloading and installing is two very different ideas. Furthermore, Examiner seems to suggest that SSDS Agent software is equivalent of one or more realization detectors in the claimed invention. Claims 1, 19, 37, and 55 all recite that each patch is capable of being associated with at least one realization, and for each realization, a realization detector is downloaded to the computer system. In other words, a patch may be associated with multiple realizations, and that would require the downloading of multiple realization detectors. Therefore, it would not make sense if the SSDS Agent software needs to be downloaded multiple times or installed multiple times prior to applying one patch.

Additionally, Bartoletti does not teach the step of writing data to the computer object indicating whether the state defined by the realization exists on the computer. Furthermore, Bartoletti only discusses the comparisons of information in patch specifications with respective information on the target system. Bartoletti does not discuss writing data to store the results of the comparisons.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Bartoletti does not teach each and every limitation in independent claims 1, 19, 37, and 55. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner

14

Application No.: 09/851923 Docket No.: SMQ-117/P6141

to reconsider and withdraw rejections directed to independent claims 1, 19, 37, and 55 and their corresponding dependent claims 2-18, 20-36, and 38-54.
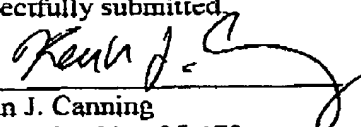
In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this statement. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 12-0080, under Order No. SMQ-117 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: March 24, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By_____

Kevin J. Canning
Registration No.: 35,470
LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP
28 State Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02109
(617) 227-7400
(617) 742-4214 (Fax)
Attorney For Applicant

15